From: <u>Deepwater Horizon Response External Affairs</u>
Reply To: <u>Deepwater Horizon Response External Affairs</u>

To: Rob Lawrence/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: EPA Releases BP's Response to Directive on Dispersants

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EPA Releases BP's Response to Directive on Dispersants

Key contact numbers

 Report oiled shoreline or request volunteer information: (866) 448-5816

 Submit alternative response technology, services or products: (281) 366-5511

 Submit your vessel for the Vessel of Opportunity Program: (281) 366-5511

 Submit a claim for damages: (800) 440-0858

 Report oiled wildlife: (866) 557-1401 Deepwater Horizon Incident Joint Information Center

> Phone: (985) 902-5231 (985) 902-5240

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WASHINGTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today released BP's response to EPA's directive on dispersants. EPA's directive to BP required them to evaluate available, pre-approved dispersants for toxicity and effectiveness and report back to EPA within 24 hours. After receiving their response late Thursday night, EPA immediately called a meeting with BP to discuss the issue on Friday, May 21. EPA will continue to work over the next 48 hours to ensure BP is complying with the directive.

BP's response to EPA's directive, as well as the directive itself, can be found here.

BP and several of the dispersant manufacturers have claimed some sections of BP's response contain confidential business information (CBI). By law, CBI cannot be immediately made public except with the company's permission. EPA challenged these companies to make more information public and, as a result, several portions of the letter can now be made public. EPA is currently evaluating all legal options to ensure that the remaining redacted information is released to the public. EPA continues to strongly urge these companies to voluntarily make this information

public so Americans can get a full picture of the potential environmental impact of these alternative dispersants.

For information about the response effort, visit www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com.

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